# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

DATE: September 3, 2015

TO: Zoning Hearing Officer

FROM: Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Consideration of a Coastal Development Permit, pursuant to

Section 6328.4 of the County Zoning Regulations, and a Certificate of Compliance (Type B), pursuant to Section 7134.2 of the County Subdivision Regulations, to confirm the legality of a single parcel, consisting of three (3) individual lots, located adjacent to 9 Avenue Alhambra in the unincorporated El Granada area of San Mateo County.

This project is appealable to the California Coastal Commission.

County File Number: PLN 2015-00112 (Jin/Silveira)

#### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant has applied for a Certificate of Compliance (Type B) to confirm the legality of a single parcel of 6,485 sq. ft. The Type B is required because the subject parcel (Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 96 of the "Plat of Subdivision No. 8 of Granada," recorded in 1909) was not conveyed separately from the surrounding adjacent lots until after July 1945, the effective date of the County's first subdivision ordinance. The Certificate of Compliance (CoC) is required by the County Subdivision Regulations in order to establish the legality of this parcel. The creation of this parcel constitutes development, which triggers the accompanying Coastal Development Permit as required by the County's Local Coastal Program. No other development on the subject lot is proposed at this time.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Zoning Hearing Officer approve the Coastal Development Permit and Certificate of Compliance (County File Number PLN 2015-00112), by making the required findings and adopting the conditions of approval identified in Attachment A.

#### <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Report Prepared By: Pete Bentley, Project Planner, Telephone 650/363-1821

Applicant: Daniel Silveira

Owner: Edmund Jin

Location: Adjacent to 9 Avenue Alhambra, El Granada

APN: 047-043-240

Size: 6,485 sq. ft.

Existing Zoning: R-1/S-17/DR/CD (Single-Family Residential/5,000 sq. ft. minimum parcel size/Design Review)

General Plan Designation: Medium Density Residential (6.1-8.7 dwelling units per net acre)

Parcel Legality: Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 96, "Plat of Subdivision No. 8 of Granada," recorded in San Mateo County Records on June 7, 1909, in Volume 6 at page 65. Confirmation of the legality of this parcel is the purpose of this application and discussed in Section A.3 of this report.

Existing Land Use (of Subject Parcel, Lots 1, 2 and 3): Vacant

Water Supply: Coastside County Water District

Sewage Disposal: Granada Sanitary District

Flood Zone: FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map designation indicates parcel as Zone X, Area of Minimal Flooding, Community Panel No. 06081CO138E, dated October 16, 2012.

Environmental Evaluation: Categorically exempt under provisions of Class 5, Section 15305 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, related to minor alterations of land use limitations.

Setting: The subject undeveloped property is comprised of the subject parcel (Lots 1, 2 and 3), trapezoid in shape (approximately 75 ft. wide by 88 ft. deep) on Avenue Alhambra, an improved, County-maintained roadway, at the corner of Madrid Avenue. The parcel is surrounded by single-family residential development. Specifically, adjacent Lot 22 (to the northwest) is developed with a single-family dwelling built in 2005. Adjacent Lots 4 and 5 (to the west) are developed with a single-family dwelling built in 1988. Sanitary sewer lines are located within the road right-of-way. Fire hydrants are also located nearby. Approval of the Certificate of Compliance would allow the property owner to apply for development permits at a later date, at which point a sanitary sewer connection and a domestic water source would need to be secured.

#### **DISCUSSION**

### A. <u>KEY ISSUES</u>

### 1. Conformance with the General Plan

The proposal complies with General Plan (GP) Policy 8.13 (Appropriate Land Use Designations and Locational Criteria for Urban Unincorporated Areas) in that this portion of unincorporated El Granada has a GP Land Use Designation of Medium Density Residential (6.1-8.7 dwelling units/net acre). The proposal – confirming the legality of the parcel as a single, zoning compliant and potentially developable parcel – does not exceed this density, and this area is correspondingly zoned R-1/S-17/DR/CD, with which the proposed project is in compliance relative to lot size (the subject parcel exceeds 5,000 sq. ft.). The project also complies with Policy 8.14 (Land Use Compatibility), in that upon resolution of the parcel's legality, the possible future development of a single-family residence – in compliance with all S-17 and Design Review development regulations and standards – would "protect and enhance the character of existing single-family areas."

#### 2. Conformance with the Local Coastal Program (LCP)

LCP Policy 1.28 (Legalizing Parcels) requires a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) when issuing a CoC (Type B) to legalize parcels. The CDP is included as an element of this application. Policy 1.29 provides standards for review when legalizing parcels. Subsections (a) through (e) all require a CDP, and compliance with applicable LCP resource protection policies. Permits to legalize this parcel shall also be, where applicable, conditioned to maximize consistency with LCP resource protection policies. Other than the subject application to confirm the legality of the parcel for development as a single parcel, no other development is proposed at this time. There is no basis to believe that, upon legalization of this parcel as <u>one</u> developable parcel, the resultant parcel configuration and location, or the future residential development that may be proposed on the parcel, will have any adverse impact on coastal resources, because the subject site is not located near a sensitive habitat area or coastal view shed.

The project – legalization of the parcel – has no application to other LCP Component policies, since the parcel is not near or in any proximity to any sensitive habitats, nor are any Visual Resource policies impacted. It is understood that future development of the parcel, assuming compliant with all R-1/S-17 Zoning Regulations and Design Review Standards, will qualify for a Coastal Development Exemption, since the parcel is located within the Single-Family Categorical Exclusion Zone.

## 3. Conformance with Subdivision Regulations

A Conditional CoC (Type B) is required to legalize parcels in compliance with provisions of the County and State subdivision laws in effect at the time of creation. This process is required before any new development can be approved or proceed.

As a result of recent court case decisions, the subject parcel's legality must be confirmed because it is an undeveloped parcel of an antiquated subdivision, in this case, Lots 1, 2 and 3 of the "Plat of Subdivision No. 8 of Granada," recorded in 1909. The County Subdivision Regulations, Section 7134, allow for either a CoC (Type A) or CoC (Type B) to resolve and confirm a parcel's legality. As such, to qualify for a CoC (Type A) (pursuant to Section 7134.1), relative to the tenants of the cited court cases, it must be confirmed that the parcel comprising the subject lots was conveyed separately from any surrounding lots (beyond the subject property whose legality is to be confirmed) prior to the County's adoption of its first Subdivision Ordinance in July 1945. If such conveyance is confirmed to have occurred after that date, a CoC (Type B) (pursuant to Section 7134.2) shall be required, as is the case with this application.

The subject lots that comprise the proposed parcel (Lots 1, 2 and 3) were initially part of the cited 1909 subdivision. The submitted Chain of Title data confirms that Lots 1, 2 and 3 continued to be conveyed along with other adjacent lots (as opposed to either separately or individually), until 1974. Given that the subject parcel was conveyed after 1945, it has been determined that the parcel – since its legality is sought as a single, developable parcel – requires the CoC (Type B). Section 7134.2.c allows for the approval and recordation of a CoC subject to a public hearing and the imposition of conditions of approval to ensure that development on the parcel (as a single, zoning compliant parcel) complies with public health and safety standards.

Regarding conditions of approval, Section 7134.2.c(a) of the County Subdivision Regulations states that the Community Development Director may impose any conditions which would have been applicable [to the division] at the time the parcel was created through separate sale, and which had been established at that time in the Map Act or the County Subdivision Regulations. The subject lot, totaling 6,485 sq. ft., would have been compliant with the zoning (minimum parcel size was then and still is 5,000 sq. ft.) in 1974 as well as with the applicable Subdivision Regulations at that time (road access, sewer, water and power availability). Additionally, the roadway, sanitary and energy infrastructure exists within this predominantly developed and improved subdivision in El Granada. Given these facts, there are no additional improvements typical of an urban subdivision that must be required via conditions. The only additional and

applicable improvements (i.e., planning and building permits, sewer, water and energy line laterals from the street to a future house) will be triggered and required at the time of the submittal and issuance of those respective permits.

# B. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW</u>

The proposed parcel legalization is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15305, Class 5: minor alterations in land use limitations that do not result in any change in land use or density. The process and documentation to legalize the subject parcel represents a minor alteration in a land use limitation.

## C. <u>COUNTY AGENCY REVIEW</u>

**County Counsel** 

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Recommend Findings and Conditions of Approval
- B. Location and Assessor's Parcel Map
- C. Original 1909 Subdivision Map

PSB:fc - PSBZ0496\_WFU.DOCX

# County of San Mateo Planning and Building Department

# RECOMMENDED FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Permit or Project File Number: PLN 2015-00112 Hearing Date: September 3, 2015

Prepared By: Pete Bentley For Adoption By: Zoning Hearing Officer

Project Planner

#### RECOMMENDED FINDINGS

### For the Environmental Review, Find:

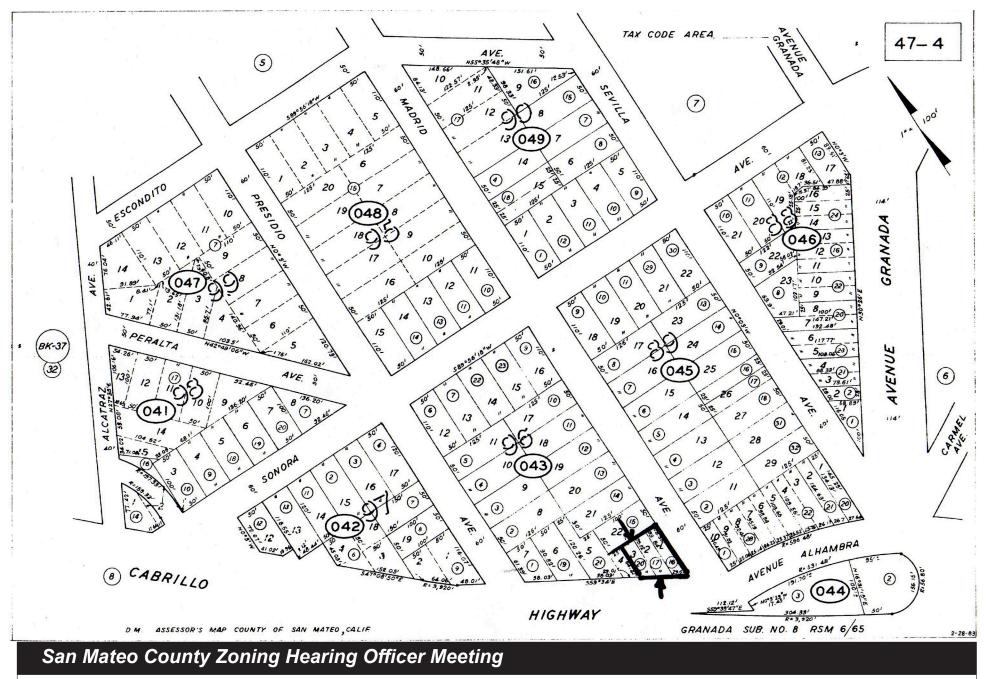
1. That the project is categorically exempt under provisions of Class 5, Section 15305 and Section 15304, Class 4(c) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines which exempts minor alterations in land use limitations that do not result in any change in land use or density, whereby the process and documentation to legalize the subject parcel represent such a minor alteration in land use limitations.

#### For the Conditional Certificate of Compliance (Type B), Find:

- 2. That the processing of the Certificate of Compliance (CoC) (Type B) is in full conformance with the County Subdivision Regulations Section 7134 (Legalization of Parcels; Certificate of Compliance) particularly Section 7134.2(a), (b), and (c).
- 3. That the processing of the Conditional CoC (Type B) is in full conformance with Government Code Section 66499 et seq.

#### For the Coastal Development Permit, Find:

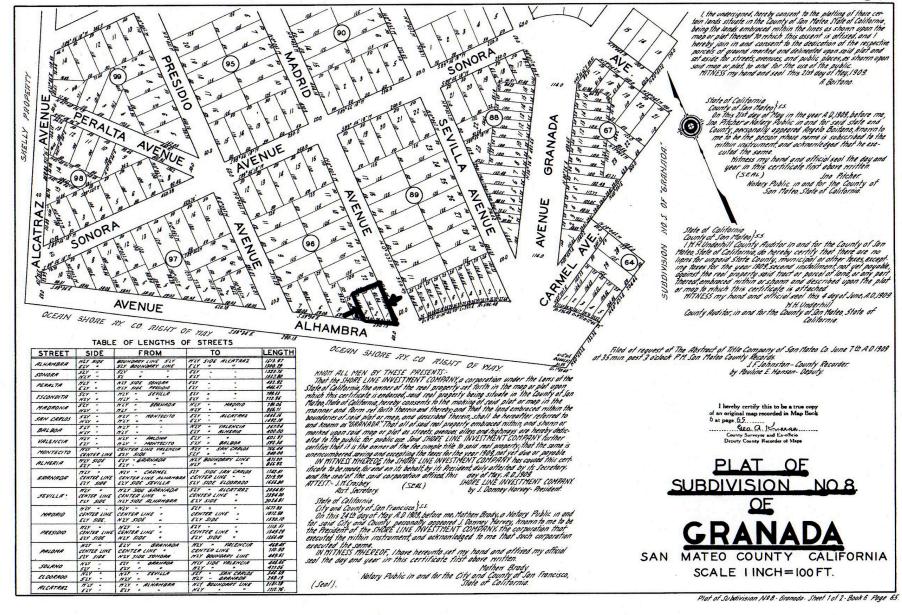
- 4. That the project, as described in the application and accompanying materials required by Section 6328.7 and as conditioned in accordance with Section 6328.14, conforms to the plans, policies, requirements and standards of the San Mateo County Local Coastal Program. The project includes no other development at this time, nor will any conditions result in development prior to the recordation of the Certificate of Compliance document.
- 5. That the project conforms to the specific findings required by policies of the San Mateo County Local Coastal Program (LCP). The potential for future residential



Owner/Applicant:

Attachment:

File Numbers:



# San Mateo County Zoning Hearing Officer Meeting

Owner/Applicant:

Attachment:

File Numbers: